

The Evening World.

ESTABLISHED BY JOSEPH PULITZER.
Published Daily Except Sunday by The Evening World Publishing Company, New York, 53 to 63 Park Row, New York.
DAVID PULITZER, President, 63 Park Row.
J. ANSON SHAW, Treasurer, 63 Park Row.
JOSEPH PULITZER, Jr., Secretary, 63 Park Row.

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.
The Associated Press is authorized to use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.

PAYING FOR CRUELTY.

SMOOTH-SHOED horses should be calked for the sake of common humanity to the horses and for economy in hauling costs. If these reasons are not enough, then sharp shoes should be provided to avoid traffic tie-ups in our congested city streets.

It might happen anywhere. It chanced to happen on the broad thoroughfare of lower Seventh Avenue. The driver of a van was backing into the curb. One of his horses fell across the car track. The van completely blocked half the street. Before the horse could be unhitched and induced to struggle to his feet a line of stalled street cars extended up the avenue for two blocks. Motor trucks, horse-drawn vans, delivery wagons, passenger automobiles were wedged in between the street cars and curb in an inextricable mass and delayed for fifteen minutes.

The incident has been duplicated a hundred times in the last two days.

Eventually the public pays in time and money for such wasteful delays. It seems a rather heavy penalty for an owner's parsimony and cruelty in failing to prepare his horses for winter pavement conditions.

Why not revive and pass the horseshoe calk ordinance which The Evening World advocated three years ago? Members of the Board of Aldermen, it is up to you.

OUT OF THE HABIT.

RECORD-BREAKING theatrical receipts of \$100,000 a day recall the dire predictions made during the recent actors' strike. New Yorkers, it was feared, would get out of the habit of going to the theatre and houses would be dark for want of patronage. When theatrical managers admit the most prosperous season ever, it must be admitted that the prophets were far astray.

If the \$100,000 the theatres receive were all that theatregoers had to pay, the managerial prosperity would be a source of general gratification. But, as a matter of fact, New Yorkers are getting out of the habit of going to theatres. Only the tourists and transients can meet the demands of the scalping speculators.

Prudence would counsel a more careful distribution of tickets and prevention of "speculating" in theatre tickets. The tide of transients may ebb and the managers may then wonder why the old reliables of the city no longer appreciate their offerings. The answer may be "You broke us of the habit."

WORTH 9400.

WORTH 9400, the telephone number of the City Health Department, was best advertised yesterday. The Evening World printed it in headlines, with the approval of Health Commissioner Copeland.

Worth 9400 is worth remembering in case the living-room temperature commences to carry a reminder of Greenland's icy mountains.

Tenants in a chilly apartment equipped with a private branch telephone exchange may have trouble in getting a connection with Worth 9400. A clever telephone operator faithful to the interests of her employer might fumble the plugs or report a busy line. But she would be clever enough to warn the janitor to get busy with the coal shovel or look out for Dr. Copeland.

If such a ruse should fail, a determined effort to telephone Dr. Copeland is in order. Encouraged by the successful prosecution of coal-thrift Harry Chaimowitz, Dr. Copeland is willing to help keep New York warm as a disease-prevention measure. "It's a hot idea" is an appropriate slang expression.

SLIPPERY SLIDES.

DOES a slippery slide tempt you to your downfall? If so, gray hairs do not mean anything. You are young. If not—well, beware!—the grim reaper is watching for you to fall in his swath.

A "slippery slide" is what the boys call it. A fig for your literary purists who point out the redundancy of the phrase. The boys know. They have been calling it that for a generation. A slippery slide is an unflattering barometer of real age, which does not depend in the least on the number of birthdays that have come and gone. Stand near a smooth, icy spot on the sidewalk and watch the aged and the youthful divide. The aged cringe away instinctively. The youthful veer toward it, even though caution, economy or dignity may prevent a hop, skip and slide.

Some one has to start a slippery slide. Frequently the beginning is entirely involuntary and ends in a fall. But once it is marked out, the youngsters, whether six or sixty years old, keep improving it until the weather spoils it all.

Fathers who have to buy shoes have been known to frown on slippery sliding and then go out and slide. Cobblers and slippery sliders are all in favor of the tempting smooth spots on the sidewalk.

THE OBSESSED.

IT IS amazing how differently a man can conduct himself toward public as distinguished from private interests.

High intelligence, training, personal honor and uprightness that could be trusted to treat private enterprise or problem with conscience and scruple become utterly untrustworthy when it is a question of dealing with issues of vital moment to community or Nation.

A United States Senator who would handle the affairs of a friend with a deep sense of responsibility toward the person concerned can approach the gravest national issues with his thoughts centered only on what the situation can be made to produce for a political party.

Not for a moment would he see his friend's interests suffer. On no plea would he permit needless misunderstandings, antagonisms, enmities to be developed until they menaced his friend's future.

But he feels no such compunction about holding up indefinitely his country's commerce. He accepts no such responsibility when he supports a policy that puts the United States at odds with other nations and opens the way to another era of international mistrust.

The attitude of Republican Senators toward the most momentous situation in which the civilized world has ever found itself has been not how will the country come out of it? But how will the Republican Party come out of it?

The present attitude of those same Republican Senators toward compromise is not how soon can it establish peace? but how safe will it be to hold out for the last scrap of whatever will serve for Republican campaign capital?

Henry Cabot Lodge stands as an impressive warning of what political prejudice, combined with overpowering personal and partisan desire to discredit the chief of the opposing party, can do to a man whose motives in private matters have admittedly been of the highest.

Senator Lodge is the most conspicuous victim of one of the worst obsessions that has ever lowered the standards of American statesmanship.

We mean the obsession that because Woodrow Wilson, as President of the United States, took part in the high negotiations which produced the Peace Treaty and the Covenant of the League of Nations, both treaty and League are Woodrow Wilson's, and as such must be massacred or mangled by all true Republican hands at whatever cost to the country.

Parties and party leaders have been wrecked by obsessions not one-hundredth part as harmful.

"CAN'T DEPORT IDEAS."

To the Editor of The Evening World:

The Evening World's quotation from Senator Kenyon's address was mighty true. "You can't deport ideas as you can deport people." But you can destroy the power of the idea.

An idea in the mind of one man can do little mischief if he cannot get others to believe in it. And no man will believe these radical rantings when he knows better. It's up to us to see that he does know better.

What, then, can we say or do that will counteract these street corner influences? We can educate. But education doesn't mean mounting another soap box on the opposite corner and just shouting louder than the other fellow. And it doesn't mean compulsory classes in English. It's a much bigger work than that.

Here's a programme of education. It doesn't sound like the usual "Americanization" programme, but it ought to be the basis of them all.

Stop distrusting the other fellow—your immigrant neighbor. Unbend and talk to him. Until he can learn our language, find a way to talk to him and help him through his own. Learn from him. Help him over the hard spots of life in a new country. Teach him English. He'll want to know it. And with the enthusiasm of your own love for your country, interpret America to him. Make him understand that the America born with the Declaration of Independence—the America he sought with hope in his heart—still lives, it we but open our eyes and understand not a perfect land, but with high principles and aspirations.

The real need is for more books, but good ones, by people who know their subject and know the people for whom they are writing—not just by men who are anxious to preach patriotism in print. We need a great non-commercial, patriotic organization to produce the needed books and to see that they reach the people. We need such an organized educational propaganda that the people will be well supplied with the right kind of literature, and not be left—as many of our foreign born are—with little accessible reading matter than Bolshevik propaganda.

Ask any librarian in our foreign districts to whom to talk on the subject of books and the immigrant, and he'll send you to the Immigrant Publication Society. This society's work has been to "interpret the immigrant to America, and America to the immigrant." The method has been: Reach the foreign born first in a "friendly way in their own language, with books on America, and practical guides for the many difficulties of daily life in this country, with its strange new people, customs and institutions. This gives a strong, definite impetus to the desire to learn English, and is followed by beginning books, and books in simple English for adult reading, on great Americans, American history and the spirit and ideals of our land. And next in line is the citizenship book—not a question and answer book of no inspiration, but a mighty entertaining book that lifts the American himself a little off his feet by its power and simplicity.

The idea for the society grew out of the success of the "Guide to the United States." And now the success of the idea, fully proved, ought to be taken up and backed by the whole people. HORTENSE LEVI.
1311 Avenue O, Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 18.

Come Out of the Kitchen!

By J. H. Cassel



FROM EVENING WORLD READERS

Fix Prices by Law.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Is it not the desire of the great majority of the people to get back to conditions as they were in normal times? And, in that event, is it not better to use conditions as they were in normal times as a basis to work to? This would simplify matters, as there would be but two standards to work for: the standard of weights and measures and gold standard. The standard of weight and measures is protected by law, but the standard of value, which rightly should be called gold standard, is easily violated at will, in other words, a merchant sells a certain measure of flour for \$1, and if that measure is slightly under weight he is liable for prosecution, while on the other hand, if that merchant sells that same measure only half full of flour for \$1 he goes scot free for having violated the supposed to be standard value of the dollar, or gold standard. This fluctuation of the amount of commodities that is handed out in exchange for the dollar is blamed on the mythical claim of supply and demand, which is more often than not manufactured out of whole cloth to suit the market manipulators.

We make just laws governing and regulating the charges that may be made by the railway companies for carrying passengers and freight, then we let other conditions and prices of commodities run rampant to the extent that it becomes a physical impossibility for the railway companies to comply with those supposed to be just laws and maintain their railway systems. If it is a good policy to regulate the rates to be charged by the railways, why would it not also be a good policy to regulate the price on commodities necessary to the comfort and welfare of mankind? And as a basis for relieving the present condition of things, let us take the average price on all leading commodities, including wages, salaries, etc., for and during the period of the normal pre-war years, and let that be the regulation rate, the same as railway rates are regulated, which rate could be established for a period of one, two or five years. Producers will then become interested in supplying the market demand instead of trying to profit by manipulating the market. MRS. M. G. SCHUBALKE.
Newark, Dec. 16.

A Poison Treatment.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Having read of the poisoning of the police dogs, wish to state that one of my dogs was also poisoned. But for the quick relief I gave I would have lost him. Here is my formula: Mustard water emulsion and warm milk. Afterward, castor oil, ketchup, and nitric acid. Give every half hour till it works. Keep the animal warm and the stomach empty for twenty-four hours after. Then give warm milk, soup, etc., nothing solid until the animal goes for it. In that respect they are their own doctors. Hoping this will be seen by all owners of dogs for future reference. MRS. M. G. SCHUBALKE.
Bronx, N. Y., Dec. 16.

Do It Early.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

We are puzzled everywhere by the appeal to "Do your Christmas shopping early." For the love of Mike,

can we do it if we do it if we do not get our little Christmas bonus a reasonable time in advance?

Some firms give their employees their bonus only the day before Christmas, other concerns perhaps a few days, but in very few cases more than a week. This necessitates "dipping" into the old savings account, and generally, being human, we do not always put back what we take out. Common sense forbids using more than one side of the pass-book—the deposit side.

Now then, this is an appeal to those higher up to give (if they are going to give) the Christmas bonuses about two weeks in advance. Of course, there are and always will be people who wait until the last minute to do their Christmas shopping, but many will take advantage of the scheme. DAILY HEADLINE.
New York City, Dec. 18, 1919.

Try Dry Cleaning.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I take your papers every day. Will you or some of your readers please tell me if I can and how to wash silk elastic stockings without injuring them and oblige. M. H.

Living Costs Too Much.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

If you are cutting down your paper in size and cutting out articles, why don't you leave Market Items Reduce Cost of Living?

Prices are no lower than before. And dates, figs, nuts, apples, grapes (all for holiday use) are sold at 40 cents, figs 55 cents, dates 30 cents pound, nuts 40 to 55 cents pound, apples 10 cents each.

But at wholesale dates are only 17 to 18 cents pound; figs are 4 cents and small box, not 10 cents as in stores. California nut growers advertise almonds, but stores ask 45 cents pound and it's dreadful.

Housekeepers could buy a 20-pound box of dates and seventy women would have 18-cent dates instead of 45-cent-a-pound dates. Washington Market (retail) was fitted up at big cost to the city and still holders always had high prices, even when rents were low. It is not true that this market (retail) governs food prices for 15,000,000 people outside.

Why won't you start your Housewives' Protective Association to buying co-operatively and then watch the food prices drop? Sophie Irene Loeb could run this finely and may be a Market Commissioner or a Deputy.

Mr. Foy is a very good, wise man and he's got the "puffs" down fine, but where are the low prices he promised? NIG.
CHARLOTTE R. BANGS.
New York, Dec. 17.

Retail Sugar Prices.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

In reading the letter from "W. R." in to-day's issue of The Evening World regarding the price of sugar, for the past ten days I have been paying at the rate of 24 cents per pound for sugar.

I would like to know if retailers are allowed to charge that price for sugar. I have paid that on First Avenue between 65th and 66th Street. M. H.
New York, Dec. 17, 1919.

UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake.

Copyright, 1919.

WHEN GETTING TIPS, GET GOOD ONES.

This is an editorial for the tip-hunter. By tip-hunter we do not mean the man who carries a dinner tray or the boy who checks your hat and coat. We mean the get-rich-quick gentleman who is forever hunting tips on the market, on the races, or even on a Presidential election.

He numbers several million in the United States alone. In and out of business hours he is looking for information on which he can bet. And he is so credulous that he usually bets before he verifies the information.

This kind of tip hunting is a habit, and a vicious habit. Once it gets a grip on a man he neglects his business and becomes a pest to his friends and acquaintances.

The lure of easy money is always before him. Give him one good tip, he believes, and he will "clean up." And when he has "cleaned up" he won't need to work any more.

Now it is very easy to get valuable tips, if the tip-hunter will only look in the right place. The autobiography of Benjamin Franklin is full of tips, all of them worth more than gold.

The incidents in the life of every great American make far better tips than inside information from the biggest broker in Wall Street.

And in the Old and New Testaments tips are abundant. The man who follows the tips he gets from good books, from wise men and from life itself will have much better "luck" than the man whose tips come from a speculator or a race track tout. For he will learn to depend on himself and not on chance. And before he begins his career he will get on a solid foundation.

Get good tips, while you are getting them. Forget the "Street" and the track. Take your tips from men who have done things. The tips they will give you are the only tips you can trust.

Flashes From Around the World

California Has Rice Crop.

In eight years the Sacramento Valley of California has developed a new agricultural industry, rice growing, which this past season has resulted in a gross production estimated to be worth approximately twenty-one millions of dollars. The value of the 1919 rice crop in California will probably be several millions greater than that of wheat and peaches, both of which are commonly thought of as relatively large crops in that State.

Cigarettes at \$43 the Pack.

Several concerns are actively engaged in the sale of higher-priced cigarettes in China. The Chinese who formerly confined their buying of cigarettes to those which sell at 3 to 5 cents a package, are now also buying the higher-priced brands.

We'll Be at Home in Canada.

"Cold but No Coal," reads a headline in the Toronto World, while in the next column is the sad story of how a bar of bathers' music rolls was confiscated when it was found that each roll was wrapped about a bottle labeled XXX.

THE NEW PLAYS

"For the Defense"
Gripping Melodrama
By CHARLES DARTON

THOUGH he has changed his name, Elmer L. Rice has not materially changed his style and theme of play since "On Trial" in "For the Defense," uncommonly well acted by Richard Bennett and his associates last night at the Play House.

A murder mystery in which a man and a woman are concerned is worth as much to the popular theatre as it is to the popular magazine. In this case the man, a Hindu doctor who arranges himself picturesquely in golden robes and a white turban, is such a devil in his treatment of women patients that matinee receipts promise to be large. This sly fag is more than likely to be generally described as "fascinating." Like our old entertainer, Svengali, he is something of a hypnotist, but more of a scoundrel. It is his delight first to soothe the nerves of trusting women and then to possess them—I think the polite word is "possess." Isn't it? Worst of all, he has a young scrubber who writes stories of his "fascinating" that he sells to a scandalous publication called The Tattler. Such a thing as a conscience never occurred to him.

To bring the play to a point, this bad Indian asks a young woman he is curing of stage fright to come to his place at night and sing for an opera. She is impressed, and the great man's wife, Anne Woodstock, is you may be sure, overjoyed at the possibility of being launched upon a "career" and she faintly jumps at the chance. But Dr. Kasimir, you may be equally sure, telephones a second time to the impresario's wife and informs her that the young lady—Americans are so changeable—has decided that she will sing on some other night. Accordingly Anne walks into the trap set for her and is hypnotized and carried by the wicked Kasimir into his bedroom.

But all this is not known to the audience until the play switches back to the scene of the Hindu's murder. Up to this point "For the Defense" is gripping melodrama. When it turns to one of the mechanical tricks that made up "On Trial," it is less effective. Once the cat is out of the bag, there remains only the bag emptied of its tricks.

Dramatic tension is felt most keenly when Anne returns to her apartment after going to the doctor's. Overwrought and determined to leave town by the earliest train for the West, she betrays every sign of having killed the man who tricked her and in this hysterical condition she listens to the proposal of marriage made by a young district attorney who has already given Kasimir a taste of his fist. Some of the murder comes to Armstrong over the telephone and he immediately sets out to save Anne from the consequences of the crime. Junior Dunn, a servant in Kasimir's home with a prison record against her, is arrested and convicted. Then the guilty woman comes forward with a confession. But as the audience is already a party to the long-kept secret, interest not only falls off, but the district attorney makes out a rather weak case for the play by declaring that he will see the woman through and that no jury, knowing she acted in self-defense, would convict her. As a matter of fact, she shoots the Hindu when he stops her from telephoning to the district attorney.

Still, the play, as a whole, is interesting and at times highly dramatic.

Richard Bennett gave a well-considered and effective performance as Armstrong, slow and drawing as the lover, but earnest and direct as the district attorney. He was successful, too, in bringing humor to the role with a quiet, easy method. John Sainpolis was gorgeously villainous as the Hindu, though he never over-acted. He was a real villain, a real terror. Winifred Lenihan did an intensely human bit of acting. Here, apparently, is a young actress of unusual emotional power. Angela Ogden was a cultured and dignified mammy who poured out her wrath on a "jazz telephone" but was tenderly devoted to Anne. Equally magnetic and authentic was Mary Jeffery as the heavy, though by no means slow-witted maid of the Kasimir establishment.

"For the Defense" is melodrama acted as though it were drama.

Alaskan Bears Heavy as Horses.

"THE stupidity of man, the Al- wise in becoming acquainted with, in becoming acquainted

new species of wild animals, is both wonderful and humiliating," says Dr. William T. Hornaday in "Boys' Life." "Consider the case of the three species of British East Africa, the okapi, the white mountain sheep of Alaska, and the Alaskan brown bear.

"There are several species, and although some are common and many have been exhibited in captivity the average American citizen has not had an opportunity to grasp them and hold on. As a rule, when we try to talk to a stranger about these animals, we are met by a blank look of inquiry."

"The brown bears of Alaska form a group quite apart from other bears, and entirely distinct from the grizzlies, blacks and polars. They are distinguished by their size, their size, brown color, massive build, huge heads, high shoulders and short but very thick claws. An old one-one-half inch long, will weigh between 1,000 and 1,200 pounds."

SHORTER HOURS. HIGHER WAGES.

Factory employees worked shorter hours, and their weekly earnings went 12 per cent, higher in August than a year previous in New York State, says Greater New York. The August, 1919, average earnings of \$23.85 compared with the \$26.44 in August, 1917, \$24.40 in August, 1918, \$23.89 in August, 1915, and \$22.70 in June, 1913.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

There are 2,200,000 books in the New York Public Library, according to Greater New York. These include 1,400,000 books and pamphlets in the reference department and 1,187,130 books in the circulation department, which makes it the largest free circulating library in the world.